

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
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Medicare Plan Payment Group
Information Services Design and Development Group

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TO: All Medicare Advantage, Prescription Drug Plan, Cost, PACE, and Demonstration Organizations Systems Staff

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SUBJECT: Announcement of August 2013 Software Release

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) continues to implement software improvements to the enrollment and payment systems that support Medicare Advantage and Prescription Drug programs. This letter provides detailed information regarding the planned release of systems changes scheduled for August 2013. This release focuses on improving CMS system efficiency and plan processing.

The August 2013 Release changes are as follows and may require Plan action:

1. [Applicable Transaction Reply Codes \(TRCs\) for Prospective Plans](#)
2. [Timing of Annual Rollover/Termination](#)
3. [New TRCs Associated with Establishing Railroad Retirement Board \(RRB\) Part B Premium Reduction](#)

Please note: The Medicare Advantage Enrollee Risk Assessment Indicator will not be in the August 2013 release, but is being scheduled for a later 2013 release.

1. Applicable Transaction Reply Codes (TRCs) for Prospective Plans

The Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug (MARx) system provides Transaction Reply Codes (TRCs) to plans in which a beneficiary is currently, or was previously, enrolled. A plan with beneficiary enrollments that have not yet begun (i.e., a prospective plan) receives some, but not all, of the TRCs that are generated for a beneficiary who will become a member. This system update ensures that all changes to the beneficiary's demographic information, health status, and late enrollment penalty (LEP) information are sent to all plans affected by the change. This

includes plans with past, current, or future enrollments when the enrollment period overlaps the beginning and ending dates for the change.

The following TRCs are currently sent to all affected past and/or current plans, and this software update ensures transmission to affected future/prospective plans:

Code	Type	Title
178	M	LEP Rescinded
195	M	SSA Unsolicited Response
218	M	LEP Reset Undone
219	M	LEP Reset Accepted
715	M	Medicaid Change Accepted
716	I	MARx User Interface (UI) changed the Number of Uncovered Months

The following TRCs are currently sent only to affected future/prospective plans, and this software update ensures transmission to affected past and/or current plans:

Code	Type	Title
077	M	Medicaid Status Set
078	M	Medicaid Status Terminated
099	M	Medicaid Period Change/Cancellation
137	M	Beneficiary Has Received a Kidney Transplant

2. Timing of Annual Rollover/Termination

Beginning in 2013, the annual rollover and termination processing moves from December to November. This allows beneficiaries a longer timeframe to decide whether to remain in the rolled over Plan. It also allows a longer time period to monitor enrollments into rollover plans. In 2013, the rollover and termination process is tentatively planned for the weekend of November 2nd for non-segmented plans only. Non-segmented plans can review the results of the rollover and termination process in their Daily Transaction Reply Report shortly thereafter. For segmented plans, CMS will run the rollover and termination process later in November. Processing segmented plans separately will only occur this year. In future years, CMS plans to run the rollover and termination process for both segmented and non-segmented plans at the same time. CMS will send another communication to segmented plans noting when their rollover and termination process will occur, and when they can expect to receive the results of the process.

3. New TRCs Associated with Establishing Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) Part B Premium Reduction

CMS provides TRCs to plans as a result of the responses CMS receives from the RRB. The TRCs are updated and expanded to provide more details to the plans. As CMS interacts with the RRB to establish Part B Premium Reduction, plans may receive one or more of the new TRCs found in the attached table:

- *New TRCs Associated with Establishing Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) Part B Premium Reduction, [Attachment A](#).*

**Attachment A: New TRCs Associated with Establishing Railroad Retirement Board (RRB)
Part B Premium Reduction**

Code	Type	Title	Short Definition	Description
237	I	Part B Premium Reduction Sent to Agency	PT B RED UPDATE	<p>As a result of an accepted plan-submitted transaction (Transaction Types 51, 61, 72, 73, 75, 78) or UI update to a beneficiary's records, information has been forwarded to SSA/RRB to update SSA/RRB records and implement any requested Part B premium reduction changes.</p> <p>Any requested change will not take effect until an SSA/RRB acceptance is received. Plans are notified of the SSA/RRB acceptance with a TRC 235 on a future TRR.</p> <p>Plan Action: None required. Take the appropriate actions per CMS enrollment guidance.</p> <p><i>Note: The plan will not see the result of any Part B Reduction change until it has received a TRC 235 or 236 on a future TRR.</i></p>
238	I	RRB Rejected Part B Reduction, Delayed Processing	DELAY RRB PROC	<p>CMS submitted Part B Reduction information for a beneficiary to the RRB (See TRC 237). This data transmittal was rejected by the RRB because it was unable to process the data at this time.</p> <p>CMS continues to interface with the RRB to resolve the rejection.</p> <p>Plan Action: No action required.</p>
239	I	RRB Rejected Part B Reduction, Jurisdiction	NOT RRB JRSDCTN	<p>CMS submitted Part B Reduction information for a beneficiary to the RRB (See TRC 237). This data transmittal was rejected by the RRB. The beneficiary no longer falls under the RRB jurisdiction.</p> <p>Plan Action: The beneficiary jurisdiction must be assessed and aligned between agencies to successfully process the data.</p>